

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the above amendments and the following remarks..

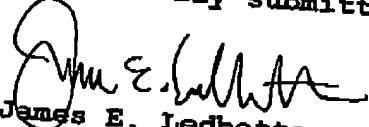
Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended to Applicant's representatives during the telephone conversations conducted on August 19 and 22 and September 2 and 6, 2005. The claim amendments provided herein were discussed during these conversations and are submitted to clarify the claimed subject matter, as requested by the Examiner.

Claims 1, 13, and 15 have been amended to clarify the subject matter defined thereby. These amendments are non-narrowing, and no estoppel is deemed attachable thereto.

In view of the above, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

If any issues remain which may best be resolved through a telephone communication, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
James E. Ledbetter  
Registration No. 28,732

Date: September 7, 2005  
JEL/DWW/att

Attorney Docket No. JEL 31210  
STEVENS DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.  
1615 L Street, N.W., Suite 850  
P.O. Box 34387  
Washington, D.C. 20043-4387  
Telephone: (202) 785-0100  
Facsimile: (202) 408-5200